

Annual Reports

OF THE

Town Officers

OF

Bennington, N. H.,

FOR THE

Fiscal Year Ending January 31

1929

**Also, Vital Statistics for Year Ending
December 31, 1928**

**Including the Dedication Exercises of the
New School House**

ANTRIM, N. H.:

H. WEBSTER ELDREDGE, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER
1929

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TOWN OFFICERS

Selectmen

JAMES J. GRISWOLD
HARRY W. BROWN
CHARLES M. TAYLOR

Town Clerk

CHARLES H. SMITH

Town Treasurer

ARTHUR F. BELL

Road Agent

WILLIAM J. TAYLOR

Overseer of Poor

HENRY W. WILSON

Tax Collector

GEORGE B. GRISWOLD

Moderator

GEORGE E. EDWARDS

Supervisors

HENRY W. WILSON
PHILIP KNOWLES
LEON MESSER

Auditors

PHILIP KNOWLES
LAWRENCE PARKER

Ballot Inspectors

HARRY S. DUNBAR
FRANK J. NEWTON
LEON MESSER
PATRICK J. SHEA

Library Trustees

FRANK G. TRAXLER
HENRY W. WILSON
ALLAN GERRARD

Health Officer

HENRY W. WILSON

Trustees of Trust Funds

ARTHUR J. PIERCE
FRANK G. TRAXLER
FRIEDRIKA L. EDWARDS

Sealer of Weights and Measures

FRED A. KNIGHT

Sexton

FRANK A. TAYLOR

Janitor of Town Hall

PATRICK J. SHEA

Forest Fire Warden

HENRY W. WILSON

Fire Wards

HENRY W. WILSON
HARRY S. DUNBAR
LEON MESSER

Surveyor of Wood and Lumber

ROBERT KNOWLES

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

**To the Inhabitants of the Town of Bennington in the
County of Hillsborough in said State, qualified
to vote in Town Affairs:**

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in said Bennington on Tuesday, the 12th day of March next, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following subjects:

1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.
2. To raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray town charges for the ensuing year and make appropriation of the same.
3. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Memorial Day.
4. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Highways and Bridges.
5. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for lighting the streets with Electricity.
6. To see what action the Town will take with regard to State Aid Construction, State Aid Maintenance, and Trunk Line Maintenance.

7. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Evergreen Cemetery.

8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars to plow the Snow from the Trunk Line during the Winter of 1929-1930.

9. To see if the Town will vote to paint the Town Hall on the outside and raise and appropriate money for the same.

10. To see if the Town will vote to buy new chairs for the Town Hall and raise and appropriate money for the same.

11. To see if the Town will vote to put in a new culvert across the new School Grounds and raise and appropriate money for the same.

12. To see if the Town will vote to buy new Fire Extinguishers and a Portable Power Pump for the Fire Company and raise and appropriate money for the same.

13. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to borrow money to finance Town's share of rebuilding covered bridge providing State would pay two-thirds of cost and Town pay one-third.

14. To see if the Town will vote to give a 2 per cent discount to all Property Tax payers who shall pay their tax within 60 days from the date of issue.

15. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Sidewalks.

16. To see if the Town will vote to set aside in some Savings Bank 50 per cent of the net income of the Water Works, the same to be used for improvements at the discretion of the Water Commissioners and approved by the Selectmen. The remaining 50 per cent to be set aside in some Savings Bank against depreciation, to be used at the discretion of the Water Commissioners and approved by the Selectmen.

17. To see what the Town will vote to do with that part of the Town Hall Building vacated by the Schools and raise and appropriate money for the same.

18. To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our hands and seal this twenty-second day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and twenty-nine.

HARRY W. BROWN
CHAS. M. TAYLOR
Selectmen of Bennington

A true copy of Warrant—Attest:

HARRY W. BROWN
CHAS. M. TAYLOR
Selectmen of Bennington

LIST OF APPROPRIATIONS

County Tax		\$1,785 75
State Tax		2,298 25
State Aid Construction	\$1,395 00	
State Aid Maintenance	1,200 00	
Trunk Line Maintenance	1,200 00	
	<hr/>	3,795 00
Schools		7,367 50
Memorial Day		200 00
Town Maintenance		1,700 00
Electricity		715 00
Library		200 00
Evergreen Cemetery		200 00
Sunnyside Cemetery		200 00
Plowing trunk line		250 00
Trees		75 00
		<hr/>
		\$18,786 50

Town of Bennington

BALANCE

ASSETS

Cash:

In hands of treasurer	\$5,284 20
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Accounts Due to the Town—

Due from State: Snow Acct	5 25
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(b) Trunk Line Maint.	121 44
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(c) State Aid Maint.	6 98
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Due from County:

(a) County Poor	14 00
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Taxes not collected:

(a) Levy of 1928	46 07
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Total Assets

	\$5,477 94
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Net—Surplus, January 31, 1928	
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	\$432 98
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Net—Surplus, January 31, 1929	
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	565 63
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Increase of surplus	
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	132 65
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SHEET**LIABILITIES**

Accounts Owed by the Town:

Due to School Districts:

(a) Dog licenses	\$ 112 70
(b) Appropriation—Bal.	4,367 50
State and Town Joint	
Highway Accts:	
T. L. Maint.	121 44
(a) Unexpended bal. in	
State Treas.	
S. A. Maint.	6 98
(b) Unexpended balance in	
Town Treasury	
T. L. Maint.	60 71
S. A. Maint.	3 48
Snow Removal	
Appro. Balance	239 50

Total Liabilities	4,912 31
Excess of assets over liabilities (Surplus)	565 63

Grand Total	\$5,477 94
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Amount of Taxes Given Collector \$17,979 58

Rate of Taxation \$18.50 on \$1000.00

Paid Elsewhere and Abated

Kenneth Ashford, paid in Antrim	\$2 00	
M. C. Heath, paid in Antrim	2 00	
Edward Heath, paid in Antrim	2 00	
Leon Case, paid in Newbury	2 00	
Harry Dutton, paid in Deering	2 00	
Alonzo Fancy, paid in Hillsboro	2 00	
Geo. Starkweather, paid in Peterboro	2 00	
Mrs. Geo. Starkweather, paid in Peterboro	2 00	
Amie Bariteau, Soldier	2 00	
Geo. A. Dickey, over 70 years	2 00	
T. Goddard, over 70 years	2 00	
Mrs. T. Goddard, over 70 years	2 00	
Starling Heath, over 70 years	2 00	
Mary Knowles, over 70 years	2 00	
Fred Demars, dead	2 00	
Samuel Newton, abated	5 55	
		<hr/>
		\$35 55
Uncollected:		
James Colby	\$44 68	
Mrs. Eugene Boinsnade	1 39	
		<hr/>
		\$46 07
Collected on 1927 List:		
Mrs. Edith Cole	\$31 52	
Dr. Wm. Thompson	4 93	
Mrs. Elizabeth Harrington	19 70	
		<hr/>
		\$56 15

RECEIPTS

Current Revenue:

From Local Taxes:

Property taxes committed to collector, 1928	\$17,335 58
Less discount and abate- ment, 1928	5 55
Less uncollected, 1928	46 07
1. Property taxes current year actually collected	\$17,283 96
2. Poll taxes, current year, actually collected @ \$2.00	612 00
3. Property and poll taxes, previous years, actually collected	56 15
4. National Bank Stock taxes	2 00

Total of above collections	\$17,954 11
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From State:

5. For highways:	
(a) For State Aid Maint.	950 69
(b) For State Aid Const.	1,342 66
(c) For Trunk Line Maint.	1,293 37
(d) For Trunk Line Snow Acct.	4 50
6. Interest and dividend tax	1,098 04
7. Insurance tax	3 00
8. Railroad tax	108 76
9. Savings bank tax	1,068 10
10. White Pine Blister Acct.	3 05
11. Fighting forest fires	3 10

From County:

13. For support of poor	9 00
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From Local Sources, Except Taxes:

15. Dog Licenses	112 70
16. Business licenses and permits	21 00
18. Rent of town property	377 30

19. Rebate Interest Water Bonds	2 25	
21. Income funds—		
Caughey & Pratt Hard pan	1 70	
23. Income from departments		
Water Dept.	1,083 05	
25. Permits for the registration of		
motor vehicles	998 27	
27. Filing Fee, Representative	2 00	
		8,482 54
Total Receipts from All Sources		\$26,436 65
Cash on hand February 1, 1928		6,758 86
Grand Total		\$33,195 51

PAYMENTS

Current Maintenance Expenses:

General Government:

1. Town officers' salaries	\$718 53
2. Town officers' expenses	327 98
3. Election and registration expenses	111 50
5. Expenses of town hall and other town buildings	761 37

Protection of Persons and Property:

6. Police department, including care of tramps	60 31
7. Fire department, including forest fires	446 94

Health:

11. Health department, including hospitals	27 76
12. Vital statistics	5 15

Highways and Bridges:

Trunk Line Snow	10 50
14. State Aid maintenance	2,236 55
15. Trunk Line maintenance	2,493 75
16. Town maintenance	1,778 27
17. Street lighting and sprinkling	660 00
18. General expenses	792 92

Libraries:

19. Libraries	200 00
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Charities:

20. Town poor	16 55
21. County poor	23 00

Patriotic Purposes:

22. Aid to G. A. R. Memorial Day exercises	200 00
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Public Service Enterprises:

26. Water works	81 49
28. Cemeteries, including hearse hire	400 00

Unclassified:

31. Auto Permits, clerk's fee	45 00
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Total Current Maint. Expenses	11,397 57
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Interest:

34. Paid on temporary loans in anticipation of taxes	62 50
35. Paid on long term notes	250 83

Total Interest Payments	313 33
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Outlay for New Construction and Permanent Improvements:

38. Highways and Bridges—State Aid Construction	3,584 04
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Total Outlay Payments	3,584 04
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Indebtedness:

47. Payments on long term notes	3,000 00
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Total Indebtedness Payments	3,000 00
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Payments to Other Governmental Divisions:

52. Taxes paid to State	2,298 25
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53. Taxes paid to County	1,785 75
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54. Payments, Dog Licenses	148 97
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55. Payments to School Dists.	5,383 40
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Total Payments to Other Governmental Divisions	9,616 37
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Total Payments for all Purposes	\$27,911 31
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Cash on hand January 31, 1929	5,284 20
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Grand Total	\$33,195 51
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SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY

Description	Value
1. Town Hall, Lands and Buildings	\$10,000 00
Furniture and Equipment	300 00
2. Libraries, Lands and Buildings	5,100 00
Furniture and Equipment	500 00
3. Police Department, Lands and Buildings	400 00
4. Fire Department, Lands and Buildings	1,200 00
Equipment	2,500 00
5. Highway Department, Lands and Buildings	300 00
Equipment	600 00
7. Water Supply, if owned by Town	20,000 00
Total	\$40,900 00

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the information contained in this report was taken from official records and is complete to the best of our knowledge and belief.

Date Feb. 15, 1929

HARRY W. BROWN

CHARLES M. TAYLOR

Selectmen

ARTHUR F. BELL

Treasurer

INVENTORY OF THE TOWN OF BENNINGTON

Description of Property	No.	Valuation
Lands and Buildings		\$308,595 00
Horses	41	3,600 00
Asses and Mules	1	75 00
Oxen	2	300 00
Cows	100	10,780 00
Other Neat Stock	4	230 00
Sheep	84	840 00
Fowls	125	100 00
Portable Mills	1	75 00
Wood, Lumber, etc.		200 00
Gasoline Pumps and Tanks		1,050 00
Stock in Trade		210,711 00
Aqueducts		600 00
Mills and Machinery		400,000 00
3. Polls Number, 320 at \$2,		
Total poll taxes	\$640 00	
National Bank Stock Taxes	2 00	
Total, Exclusive of Soldiers' Exemptions		\$937,156 00
5. Amount of taxes committed to collector, including poll taxes and national bank stock taxes		\$17,970 58
6. Average rate per cent. of taxation for all purposes, per \$1,000		\$18.50
8. Amount exempted to soldiers' widows		\$1,500 00
Names of express companies doing business in your town		American
Names of telephone companies doing business in your town		Contoocook Valley and New England
Report number of dogs licensed in your town:		
(a) Male and Spayed Female—42		
(b) Female—4		

JAMES J. GRISWOLD
HARRY W. BROWN
CHAS. M. TAYLOR
Selectmen of Bennington

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Detail I—Town Officers' Salaries

Philip Knowles, Auditor 2 years	\$ 4 00
Harry W. Brown, Selectman	160 00
Harry S. Dunbar, Dog Constable	5 00
Charles H. Smith, Town Clerk	75 00
A. F. Bell, Town Treasurer	150 00
Charles M. Taylor, Selectman	125 00
George B. Griswold, Tax Collector	179 53
James J. Griswold, Selectman	20 00
	\$718 53

Detail II—Town Officers' Expenses

Edson C. Eastman, Supplies	\$ 12 97
J. Prentiss Weston, Stamps	5 46
Bennington Grange, Dinners Mar. 13	3 15
Harry W. Brown, Expenses of Selectmen to Tax Commission Meeting	30 50
H. W. Eldredge, printing Town Reports	133 80
Henry W. Wilson, Town Officers Bonds	77 20
J. Madison Howe, Printing	3 75
Contoocook Valley Tel. Co., Telephone	7 85
H. W. Brown, Auto taking Inventory	5 00
Automotive Service Bureau, Reprints	22 80
A. W. Rowell, Assessors' Dues	2 00
H. W. Brown, Expenses of Selectmen to Concord	12 00
A. F. Bell, Stamps	5 00
George B. Griswold, Postage	6 50
	\$327 98

Detail III—Election and Registration

Frank J. Newton, Ballot Inspector	\$ 9 00
H. W. Eldredge, Printing	4 50

P. J. Shea, Ballot Inspector	9 00
Cora Sheldon, Dinners Nov. 6	8 00
Alice J. Tarbox, Dinners	6 00
Harry S. Dunbar, Ballot Inspector	6 00
Henry W. Wilson, Supervisor	16 00
George E. Edwards, Moderator	12 00
Philip E. Knowles, Supervisor	16 00
Leon Messer, Supervisor	16 00
Leon Messer, Ballot Inspector	9 00

\$ 111 50

Detail V—Town Hall

New Hamp. Power Co., Lighting	\$ 95 98
P. J. Shea, care of Hall and Supplies	206 57
W. F. Clark, Repairs	9 10
George McKay, Repairs	1 00
Henry W. Wilson, Insurance	140 80
Fred C. Thompson, Supplies	2 23
Koford & Son, Tuning and Repairs	4 00
James Cashion, Cleaning Chimneys	5 00
L. J. Parker, Wood	8 00
Eugene S. Smith, Tuning and Repairs	5 00
James A. Elliott, Coal	283 69

\$761 37

Detail VI—Police

New Hampshire Power Co., Lights	\$12 51
P. J. Shea, Care of Tramps	16 00
F. A. Knight, Feeds for Tramps	15 80
L. J. Parker, Police	5 00
P. J. Shea, Police	5 00
Henry W. Wilson, Insurance	6 00

\$60 31

Detail VII—Fire Department

John Adams, Lunch at Fire	\$ 1 00
P. J. Shea, Fire Bills and Pay Roll	
1927	44 75
Leon Messer, Moving Coal	2 50

New Hampshire Power Co., Lights	12 04	
George McKay, Repairs	3 00	
Frank Traxler, Putting in Wood	2 40	
L. J. Parker, Wood	23 00	
P. J. Shea, Fire Payroll and Care of Hall	191 25	
Henry W. Wilson, Insurance and Forest Fire	52 08	
James Cashion, Cleaning Chimney	5 00	
James A. Elliott, Coal	35 39	
Bennington Garage, Supplies	24 39	
Fred A. Knight, Supplies	6 14	
Automatic Hose Co., Couplings	44 00	
		<hr/>
		\$446 94

Detail XI—Health Department

Henry W. Wilson, Health Officer, Salary and Expenses of Health Dept.	\$27 76
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Detail XII—Vital Statistics

Guy D. Tibbetts, Returning Births	\$2 00	
Chas. H. Smith, Recording	3 15	
		<hr/>
		\$5 15

Detail XIII—State Aid Maintenance

American Tar Co., Tar	\$ 72 60	
Fred H. Prince	54 50	
Boston & Maine R. R. Co., Freight	37 70	
L. J. Parker, Patrolman	2,071 75	
		<hr/>
		\$2,236 55

Detail XIV—Trunk Line Maintenance

Boston & Maine R. R., Freight	\$ 37 70	
L. J. Parker, Patrolman	2,456 05	
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		\$2,493 75

Detail XV—Street Lighting

New Hampshire Power Co., Lights	\$660 00
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Detail XVI—General Expenses

E. M. Scarbo, Repairing	\$ 2 00	
Frank Traxler, Labor	9 73	
George H. Cole, Painting Town Clock	75 00	
Monadnock Paper Mills, Repairing		
Town Clock	1 50	
Dominion Signal Co., Signs	164 00	
North East Metal Culvert Co.		
Armco Culverts	338 10	
L. J. Parker, Freight, Cement and		
Pipe	13 52	
George Gilman, Labor on Trees	15 00	
J. Herbert Lindsay, Repairs	2 50	
Frank Traxler, Care of Lawns	20 67	
Lucellas Thurston, Injuries	100 00	
Maurice Fournier, Labor	18 90	
G. D. Tibbetts, Services Thurston Case	17 00	
Charles Burnham, Care Town Clock	15 00	
		<hr/>
		\$792 92

Detail XVII—Libraries

Henry W. Wilson, Appropriation	\$200 00
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Detail XVIII—Town Poor

Henry W. Wilson, Overseer of Poor and Expenses	\$16 55
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Detail XIX—County Poor

Henry W. Wilson, Auto Grasmere	\$ 9 00	
L. J. Parker, Wood	14 00	
		<hr/>
		\$23 00

Detail XXII—Cemeteries

Anne Philbrick, Evergreen Appro.	\$200 00	
Henry W. Wilson, Sunnyside Appro.	200 00	
	<hr/>	\$400 00

Detail XXIII—Memorial Day

Charles Stowell, Appropriation	\$200 00
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Detail XXIV—Water Works

Walter E. Wilson, Supplies and Tools	\$81 49	
Hillsboro Guaranty Savings Bank		
3 Water Bonds	3,000 .00	
	<hr/>	\$3,081 49

Detail XXV—Trunk Line Snow Removal

William J. Taylor	\$10 50
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Detail XXVI—Auto Permits

Charles H. Smith, Fee for Auto Permits	\$45 00
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Detail XXVII—Interest

Monadnock—Interest on Loan	\$ 62 50	
Hillsboro Guaranty Savings Bank		
Interest on Water Bonds	250 83	
	<hr/>	\$313 33

Detail XXVIII—State Aid Construction

Fred H. Prince, Foreman	\$3,584 04
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Detail XXXV—State and County Taxes

James H. Shenton, County Tax	\$1,785 75	
Henry E. Chamberlain, State Tax	1,118 39	
	<hr/>	\$2,904 14

Detail XXXVI—Schools

Margaret J. Taylor		\$5,383 40
	<hr/>	
Total Payments		\$26,731 45

We have examined the above reports of the Selectmen, Town Treasurer, Tax Collector, Town Clerk and Road Agent, and find them correct and all disbursements properly vouched.

The accounts have been arranged in accordance with the Uniform Classification of the Tax Commission.

PHILIP KNOWLES
LAWRENCE PARKER

Auditors.

TOWN HALL REPORT

	Rents	Care of Hall	Supplies
February	\$20 00	\$18 50	
March	17 50	18 00	
April	17 50	18 50	\$2 74
May	27 50	13 75	1 75
June	41 50	15 00	
July	35 00	12 25	
August	42 50	16 00	
September	31 50	12 25	
October	31 50	13 00	
November	20 50	18 25	1 90
December	58 80	24 00	3 68
1929			
January	33 50	17 00	
	<hr/> \$337 30	\$196 50	\$10 07

Total Rents \$337 30.

Care of Hall \$206 57.

P. J. SHEA
Janitor.

TOWN OF BENNINGTON, N. H.

Road Agent's Account

Week Ending Feb. 25, 1928

William Taylor and Team, 2 dys.	\$15 00	
John Smiley, 1 day, 4 hrs.	5 06	
Eugene Scarbo, 5 hrs.	1 95	
Ed. Newton, 8 hrs.	3 12	
William Taylor, 4 hrs.	1 80	
	<hr/>	\$26 93

Week Ending March 31, 1928

William Taylor, 1 day, 3 hrs.	\$ 5 40	
William Taylor, 1 horse, 6 hrs.	1 50	
William Taylor and Team, 1 dy., 3 hrs.	10 01	
Leon Messer and Team, 4 hrs.	3 12	
John Smiley, 1 day, 7 hrs.	6 23	
Charles Stowell, 4 hrs.	1 56	
Henry Wilson, Insurance	10 50	
	<hr/>	\$38 32

Week Ending April 7, 1928

William Taylor and Team, 2 days	\$15 00	
Leon Messer and Team, 2 days, 4hrs.	17 12	
John Smiley, 2 days, 4 hrs.	8 56	
Walter Smith, 2 days	7 00	
Eugene Scarbo, 2 days	7 00	
Charles Stowell, 2 days	7 00	
	<hr/>	\$61 68

Week Ending April 14, 1928

William Taylor and Team, 5 days	\$37 50
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Leon Messer and Team, 5 days	35 00
Harvey Balch and Team, 4 days	28 00
John Smiley, 5 days	17 50
Walter Smith, 5 days	17 50
Eugene Scarbo, 5 days	17 50
Charles Stowell, 3 days	10 50
Harry Favor, 107 loads of gravel	10 70
Congregational Church, 25 loads of gravel	2 50
Edward Sturtevant, sharpening picks	80
Harvey Balch, 35 loads of gravel	3 50

\$181 00

Week Ending April 21, 1928

William Taylor & Team, 5 dys., 5 hrs.	\$41 70
Leon Messer and team 5 days, 1 hr.	35 78
John Smiley, 5 days, 5 hrs.	19 45
Walter Smith, 5 days, 5 hrs.	19 45
Eugene Scarbo, 5 days, 5 hrs.	19 45
James Griswold, 49 loads of gravel	4 90
William Taylor, 2 hrs.	90
N. E. Metal Culvert Co., 2 culverts	39 10

\$180 73

Week Ending April 28, 1928

William Taylor and Team, 1 day	\$7 50
Leon Messer and Team, 1 day	7 00
John Smiley, 1 day	3 50
Walter Smith, 1 day	3 50
Eugene Scarbo, 1 day	3 50

\$25 00

Week Ending May 5, 1928

William Taylor & Team, 2 dys., 7 hrs.	\$20 88
Leon Messer and Team, 2 days	14 00
John Smiley, 5 days	17 50
Walter Smith, 5 days	17 50
Eugene Scarbo, 5 days	17 50
George Holmes and Truck, 2 days	24 00

William Taylor, 2 days	8 00	
Eileen Newhall and Truck, 1 day	12 00	
	<hr/>	\$131 38

Week Ending May 12, 1928

William Taylor & Team, 2 dys., 7 hrs.	\$20 88	
Walter Smith, 7 hrs.	2 73	
	<hr/>	\$23 61

Week Ending June 2, 1928

William Taylor & Team, 1 day, 5 hrs.	\$11 70	
William Taylor, 1 day, 4 hrs.	5 80	
Walter Smith, 1 day, 3 hrs	4 67	
Laurence Parker and Truck, 3 hrs.	4 00	
Maurice Fournier, 3 hrs.	1 17	
B. Macalister, 1 day	3 50	
	<hr/>	\$30 84

Week Ending June 16, 1928

William Taylor & Team, 2 dys., 3 hrs.	\$17 52	
Walter Smith, 2 days, 3 hrs.	8 40	
William Heath, 3 hrs.	1 20	
A. Normandin, 3 hrs.	1 20	
U. Normandin, 3 hrs.	1 20	
Laurence Parker, patching road	13 60	
Maurice Wilson, 3 hrs.	1 20	
Max Israel, 2" Plank	87 50	
	<hr/>	\$131 82

Week Ending June 23, 1928

William Taylor, 2 days	\$ 8 00	
Walter Smith, 4 days, 4 hrs.	16 00	
John Smiley, 1 day, 2 hrs.	4 40	
Maurice Fournier, 1 day	3 60	
B. Macalister, 1 day	3 60	
Guy Veino, 1 day	3 60	
A. Normandin, 5 hrs.	2 00	

William Taylor & Team, 2 dys., 4 hrs.	18 36
Upton & Whitcomb, 7,844 feet,	
3" Hemlock Bridge Plank	274 54
Upton & Whitcomb, 2,500 feet,	
2" Hemlock Plank	75 00
	<hr/>

\$409 10

Week Ending June 30, 1928

William Taylor & Team, 1 day, 4 hrs.	\$10 86
Walter Smith, 2 days, 4 hrs.	8 80
John Smiley, 1 day	3 60
William Taylor, 1 day	4 00
Laurence Parker and Truck, 1 hr.	1 35
Fred Proctor, 50 loads of gravel	5 00
James Griswold, 14 loads of gravel	1 40
William Taylor, 150 pounds of spikes	6 00
	<hr/>

\$41 01

Week Ending August 25, 1928

William Taylor and Team	
1 day, 5½ hrs.	\$12 12
Walter Smith, 1 day 5½ hrs.	5 80
Ed. Newton, 1 day, 5½ hrs.	5 80
Laurence Parker, Patching Road	33 56
	<hr/>

\$57 28

Week Ending September 1, 1928

William Taylor & Team, 2 dys., 8 hrs.	\$21 72
Walter Smith, 3 days	10 80
Ed. Newton, 3 days, 7½ hrs.	13 80
	<hr/>

\$46 32

Week Ending September 8, 1928

Walter Smith, 7 hrs.	\$ 2 80
Ed. Newton, 3 days, 7 hrs.	13 60
Leon Messer and Team, 3 days	21 00
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\$37 40

Week Ending September 15, 1928

Walter Smith, 4 days, 7½ hrs.	\$17 40
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Week Ending October 6, 1928

William Taylor, 1 day, 4 hrs.	\$ 5 80
Walter Smith, 5 days, 6 hrs.	20 40
William Taylor & Team, 3 dys., 6 hrs.	28 54
Harvey Balch and Team, 3 dys., 6 hrs.	25 88
B. Macalister, 3 days, 6 hrs.	13 20
	<hr/>
	\$93 82

Week Ending October 14, 1928

William Taylor and Team, 6 days	\$45 00
Walter Smith, 6 days	21 60
B. Macalister, 5 days	18 00
Harvey Balch and Team, 4 days	28 00
Harvey Balch, 22 loads of gravel	2 20
James Colby, 27 loads of gravel	2 70
James Griswold, 82 loads of gravel	8 20
William Taylor, Fence Rails	1 50
	<hr/>
	\$127 20

Week Ending December 1, 1928

William Taylor & Team, 2 dys., 4 hrs.	\$18 36
A. A. Martin, 14 loads of gravel	1 40
F. A. Knight, Supplies	4 14
Town of Antrim, Plank and Labor	29 67
	<hr/>
	\$53 57

Week Ending January 5, 1929

William Taylor, 6 hrs.	\$2 70
John Smiley, 1 day, 3 hrs.	4 80
Laurence Parker and Truck, 5 hrs.	7 25
William Taylor and Team, 7½ hrs.	6 30
Walter Smith, 1 day, 1 hr.	4 00
	<hr/>
	\$25 05

Week Ending January 19, 1929

William Taylor and Team, 6½ hrs.	\$5 46
William Taylor, 1 day, 6 hrs.	6 70
Walter Smith, 2½ hrs.	1 00
John Smiley, 2½ hrs.	1 00
Robert Claflin, 2 hrs.	80
Abner Avery, 2 hrs.	80
William Taylor, 1 horse, 4½ hrs.	1 13
George Holmes and Truck, 7 hrs.	9 30
	<hr/>

\$26 19

Week Ending January 31, 1929

William Taylor, 2 hrs.	90
William Taylor, 1 horse, 2 hrs.	50
George Holmes and Truck, 2½ hrs.	3 32
Maurice Fournier, 2½ hrs.	1 00
James Griswold, 9 loads of gravel	90
Monadnock Paper Mills, plowing roads	6 00
	<hr/>

\$12 62

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

33 Male Dogs Licensed @ \$2.00	\$66 00
1 Male Dog Licensed for 9 months	1 50
7 Female Dogs Licensed @ \$5.00	35 00
12 Spayed Female Dogs Licensed @ \$2.00	24 00
	<hr/>
	\$126 50
Less Clerk's Fees	10 80
	<hr/>
	\$115 70
Paid for Dog Tags	3 00
	<hr/>
Paid Town Treasurer	\$112 70
Number of Automobile Permits issued—124	
Paid Town Treasurer for same	\$1,008 62
	<hr/>
	\$1121 32
Representative Filing Fee	2 00
	<hr/>
Total amount paid Town Treasurer	\$1,123 32

Respectfully submitted

CHARLES H. SMITH

Town Clerk.

SUNNYSIDE CEMETERY REPORT

Balance on hand February 1, 1928	\$ 80 67
Received from Treas. Trust Fund	374 88
Received from Town Treasurer	200 00
Received from F. E. Sheldon Cemetery Lot	5 00
Received from F. Q. Young Cemetery Lot	5 00
Received from M. Annabell Call Cemetery Lot	5 00
Received from F. A. Taylor for Grass	2 00
Received from Lenox Braid Cemetery Lot	5 00
	<hr/> \$677 55

Paid Out

May 10, 1928. Paid A. E. Holt, Tools	\$33 80
May 21, 1928. Paid L. J. Parker, Trucking	10 50
May 11, 1928. Paid Express on Tools	53
June 7, 1928. Paid W. M. Hanson Sharpening Lawn Mower	1 50
June 9, 1928. Paid W. M. Hanson Sharpening Edger	1 00
July 7, 1928. Paid W. M. Hanson, Sharpening Lawn Mower	1 50
July 23, 1928. Paid L. J. Parker, Trucking	7 50
July 28, 1928. Paid F. G. Traxler, Labor	33 26
Sept. 6, 1928. Paid A. D. Avery, Labor	40 43
Sept. 10, 1928. Paid F. G. Traxler, Labor	86 18
Oct. 3, 1928. Paid A. E. Holt, Seed	8 80
Aug. 30, 1928. Paid W. M. Hanson, Sharpening Lawn Mower	1 50
Sept. 24, 1928. Paid Eileen Newhall, Loam	39 00
Oct. 18, 1928. Paid B. McAlester, Labor	12 25
Oct. 18, 1928. Paid Hopkins Bros. & Belcher Fertilizer	13 25
Nov. 11, 1928. Paid L. J. Parker, Loam	9 00
Nov. 24, 1928. Paid A. D. Avery, Labor	56 00
Dec. 1, 1928. Paid L. J. Parker, Trucking	27 20
Dec. 10, 1928. Paid F. G. Traxler, Labor	27 62

Jan. 31, 1929. Paid H. W. Wilson, Labor	67 50
Jan. 31, 1929. Paid H. W. Wilson, for Treas.	5 00
Jan. 31, 1929. Paid H. W. Wilson, Auto	3 00
February 1, 1929. Cash on hand	191 23
	<hr/>
	\$677 55

FRANK TRAXLER
HENRY W. WILSON
J. PRENTIS WESTON

Trustees

REPORT OF EVERGREEN CEMETERY

April 18. J. B. Varick, Check No. 44, Roller	\$16 00
May 4. A. P. Philbrick, Check No. 45, Freight and Miscellaneous	9 05
May 29. A. Newhall, Check No. 1, Loam	5 00
May 29. P. D. Brooks, Check No. 2, Labor	14 00
May 29. A. Philbrick, Check No. 3, Grass Seed	4 00
June 4. J. B. Varick, Check No. 4, Grass Seed	4 80
June 4. A. Proctor, Check No. 5, Fertilizer	4 50
June 7. A. Newhall, Check No. 6. Loam and Fertilizer	20 25
June 28. W. O. Smith, Check No. 7, Labor	31 00
July 10. G. H. Veino, Check No. 8, Labor	16 80
July 10. E. D. Newhall, Check No. 9, Loam	4 50
July 10. J. B. Varick, Check No. 10, Grass Seed	3 21
Aug. 7. G. H. Veino, Check No. 11, Labor	8 00
Aug. 7. W. O. Smith, Check No. 12, Labor	10 40
Sept. 19. J. B. Varick, Check No. 13, Grass Seed	7 98
Sept. 25. E. D. Newhall, Check No. 14, Loam and Fertilizer	6 50
Sept. 25. G. H. Veino, Check No. 15, Labor	10 00
Sept. 28. W. O. Smith, Check No. 16, Labor	8 80

Sept. 28. G. H. Veino, Check No. 17, Labor	5 20
	<hr/>
	\$189 99
Cash to Bal. First Nat'l Bank, Peterboro	71 00
	<hr/>
	\$260 99
Bal. Forwarded from Last Year	\$ 50 99
Cash received from Town	200 00
A. Newhall Lot 43	5 00
Mrs. D. Bosley Lot 104	5 00
	<hr/>
	\$260 99

ANN PHILBRICK
JAMES J. GRISWOLD
HARRY W. BROWN

Trustees Evergreen Cemetery

Brown

Received from town from Brown trust fund	\$8 00
Labor and seeding	\$1 50
Aug. 7. Labor	1 00
Aug. 30. Labor	1 00
	<hr/>
Total	3 50
	<hr/>
Balance	\$4 50

Whitney

Received from town from Whitney trust fund	\$13 85
Received back interest from Whitney trust fund	25 00
	<hr/>
	\$38 85
Labor	\$1 75
Aug. 7. Labor	50
Aug. 30. Labor	50
Labor on surrounding lots from	

Whitney trust fund	5 00	
Total		7 75
Balance		\$31 10

Herrick

Received from town from Herrick Trust fund		\$13 85
Received back interest from Herrick Trust Fund		25 00
		\$38 85
Paid E. D. Newhall for loam and fertilizer	\$2 25	
Grass seed	70	
Paid W. O. Smith lowering stone and labor	4 00	
Paid Guy Veino lowering stone and labor	4 00	
Aug. 7. Labor	50	
Aug. 30. Labor	50	
Total		\$11 95
Balance		\$26 90

Stevens

Received from town from Stevens trust fund		\$13 85
Received from town back interest from Stevens trust fund		25 00
Total		\$38 85
Paid Ann Philbrick, labor	\$1 00	
Flowers for Memorial Day	3 00	
Seed	70	
Loam and fertilizer, E. D. Newhall	3 00	
Drawing fertilizer from Antrim	50	
Paid W. O. Smith for labor and lowering stone	4 00	
Paid Guy Veino for labor and lowering stone	4 00	

July 9.	Guy Veino, labor	50	
Aug. 7.	Paid Guy Veino for mowing and raking old part	2	80
Aug. 30.	Guy Veino, labor	50	
Sept. 24.	Labor on Colby Lot from Stevens Trust fund, 1 day		
	Paid Guy Veino	3	60
Paid E.	D. Newhall for 1 load loam and 1 load of fertilizer (\$1.50)	3.00	
<hr/>			
	Total		\$26 60
<hr/>			
	Balance		\$12 25

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND LIBRARIAN OF THE G. E. P. DODGE LIBRARY

For the Year Ending January 26, 1929

Books numbered for circulation	12,027
Books by Purchase	37
Books by Gifts	108
Miss Anna Kimball	1
Miss Barbara Mallett	2
Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Pierce	31
Mr. and Mrs. Swift	34
Mrs. Georgie Wells	18
Mr. and Mrs. Dana Weston	22

Magazines

Mrs. Mary L. Knight, Mrs. Mary H. Keeser, Mr. and Mrs. Swift, Mrs. Mary A. Traxler, Mrs. J. P. Weston, Mr. C. D. Kochersperger, Mr. A. J. Pierce, Mr. Charles Smith.

By Gifts

Mineral, Shells, Seeds, Vanilla Bean, Stone Pestle.
Presented by the pupils of the Grammar School.
Ledger, Stamp Pad, White Ink. Charles Smith.
Key Bugle with Bill of Sale dated Concord, December 10, 1824. Alwin Stevens.

Cards issued	202
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Cards issued to summer people	19
Cash on hand from 1928	\$1.32
From fines	\$6.06

Expenses

Six electric light bulbs	\$1.35
Oil	\$ 22
Paid H. W. Wilson	4 95
On hand	\$ 86

Respectfully submitted,

EMMA G. BARTLETT

Librarian

FRANK TRAXLER
HENRY W. WILSON
ALLAN GERRARD

Trustees of G. E. P. Dodge Library

Treasurer's Report of G. E. P. Dodge Library

Cash on hand Feb. 1, 1928	\$129 50
Received from Town Treasurer	200 00
Received Interest Butler Fund	46 72
Received from Emma Bartlett, fines	4 95
	<hr/> \$381 17

Paid Out

Paid for Wood	\$ 54 00
Paid for Electric Lights	13 22
Paid for Magazines	9 00
Paid Express on Books	80
Paid for Books	71 33
Paid Henry W. Wilson, Expenses and Money Paid Out	9 87
Paid Emma G. Bartlett, Librarian	50 00
Cash on hand February 1, 1929	172 95
	<hr/> \$381 17

HENRY W. WILSON
Treasurer

Approved:

FRANK TRAXLER
ALLAN GERRARD

MEMORIAL DAY REPORT

Received from Town		\$200 00
Paid James George for Band	\$65 00	
Paid John Smith, cutting letters on Soldiers' Monument	142 80	
		\$207 80

The balance of \$7.80 over appropriation was paid by the Sons of Veterans.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES STOWELL
Commander S. of V.

FIRE WARDENS' REPORT

Merrimack Engine in good condition.

Chemical Engine in first class condition.

1250 feet Rubber Lined Hose in extra condition.

Ladders, Rubber Coats, Pails, Shovels, Fire Extinguishers in good shape.

The Company was called to two fires, one at Earl Sheldon and J. Codemmi; also to several chimney fires.

The Company is in first class condition with the men well trained to fight fires.

HENRY W. WILSON
HARRY S. DUNBAR
LEON MESSER

Fire Wardens

BENNINGTON WATER WORKS CO.

From January 1, 1928 to Mar. 31, 1928

Bennington, N. H., April 27, 1928

Uncollected 1927	\$ 46 58
Collections, Jan., Feb., Mar., 1928	379 16
	<hr/> \$425 74
Credit	\$ 57 53
Cash to Balance	368 21
	<hr/>
Total	\$425 74
Credit for Postage, Supt., and Collecting	\$25 78
Uncollected Apr. 27, 1928	31 75
	<hr/>
	\$57 53

HATTIE R. MESSER

Collector

R. E. MESSER,

Superintendent

COLLECTIONS

Second Quarter	\$379 58	
Third Quarter	390 01	
Fourth Quarter	361 88	
Collected of 1st Quarter's uncollected	14 00	
	<hr/>	
Total Collections		\$1,145 47
Paid Town	\$150 00	
Paid Town	137 09	
Paid laborers, etc.	430 63	
	<hr/>	
		717 72
		<hr/>
Paid Town Jan. 31, 1929 to balance account		\$ 427 75

UNCOLLECTED BILLS FOR 1928

W. E. Keriazis	\$ 3 25
L. J. Parker	10 00
Philip Goddard	4 00
O. Wilbur (Handle Shop)	10 00

WALTER WILSON

Supt. and Coll. from Apr. 1, 1928

Paid Out

Fred Knight, lantern and oil	\$ 1 11
Postage, express and stationery	3 00
Pipe fittings and hydrant parts	3 45
W. E. Wilson, labor	80 15
Monadnock Paper Mills, pipe fitting	3 70
Monadnock Paper Mills, overcharge on bubblers for 7 quarters	131 25
Thompson & Hoague Co., tools and pipe fittings	35 25
Wm. F. Clark, pipe and labor	10 62
Bennington Garage	2 00
Leon Messer, labor with team	9 00
J. M. Holt, labor	41 05
Geo. McKay, labor	2 50
A. Avery, labor	11 60
Frank Traxler, labor	11 60
Geo. Scarbo, labor	9 35
Walter E. Wilson, Supt. and Coll.	75 00
	<hr/>
	\$430 63

In addition to above reports of Supts. Messer and Wilson we wish to state that the last 3 Water Bonds of \$1,000. each have been paid by the Town, so our Water Works are now all paid for.

HARRY W. BROWN
CHARLES BURNHAM
GEORGE B. GRISWOLD
Water Commissioners.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF BENNINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

For the Fiscal Year July 1, 1927 to June 30, 1928

Income from Local Taxation (Raised by Selectmen)	
For support of elementary schools	\$5,445 17
For Payment of High School Tuitions	1,438 23
From other sources than Taxation	
Dog Licenses 1926 and 1927	148 97
Balance of last year's appropriation	361 40
	<hr/>
	\$7,393 77
Cash on hand July 1, 1927	291 96
	<hr/>
	\$7,685 73

Payments

Administration

1. Salaries of District Officers	
George E. Edwards, chairman	
of Board	\$25 00
Sally Pierce, Board	25 00
Hattie Wilson, Board	25 00
Margaret J. Taylor, Treasurer	35 00
Arthur F. Bell, Clerk	5 00
	<hr/>
	\$115 00
2. Superintendent's Excess Salary	141 67
3. Freida Edwards, School Census	7 00
4. Expenses of Administration	66 13

Instruction

5. Teachers' Salaries	
Grammar, Margaret Genzler	\$1,050 00

Intermediate, Lulu M. Cilley	1,050 00	
Primary, Mae Cashion	1,022 12	
Music Supervisor,		
Annie Lindsay Putnam	200 00	
Sub., M. Laura M. Britton	70 00	
		<hr/>
		3,392 12
6. Text Books		248 13
7. Supplies		73 58
8. Flags		
9. Other expenses of Instruction		7 80
Operation and Maintenance of School Plant		
10. Janitor, Charles F. Burnham		360 00
11. Fuel, Lawrence J. Parker, wood		
and sawing same	\$90 00	
Monadnock Paper Mill	3 25	
		<hr/>
		93 25
12. Electric light and Janitor's		
supplies	12 00	
	23 43	
		<hr/>
		35 43
13. Louis J. Mallett, painting inside		
of 3 school rooms	\$330 85	
Minor repairs	89 07	
		<hr/>
		419 92
Auxiliary Agencies and Special Activities		
14. Medical Inspection, Dr. Guy Tibbetts		\$79 00
15. Transportation Pupils		
Charles Newhall	\$255 50	
N. L. Sturtevant	40 00	
		<hr/>
		295 50
16. High School and Academy Tuition		
Antrim High School	\$ 90 00	
Milford High School	88 23	
Hillsboro High School	1,170 00	
St. Mary Academy	90 00	
		<hr/>
		1,438 23
17. Antrim, Elementary Tuition		43 30
18. Other Special Activities		2 38
Fixed Charges		
19. Per Capita Tax		232 00
20. Insurance, H. W. Wilson		17 40
		<hr/>
Total Payments for all purposes		\$7,067 84

Balance on hand June 30, 1928	617 89
Grand Total	<u>\$7,685 73</u>

MARGARET J. TAYLOR
Treasurer.

We have examined the books and other financial records of school board of which this is a true summary for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

CHARLES M. TAYLOR
EMMA A. JOSLIN
Auditors

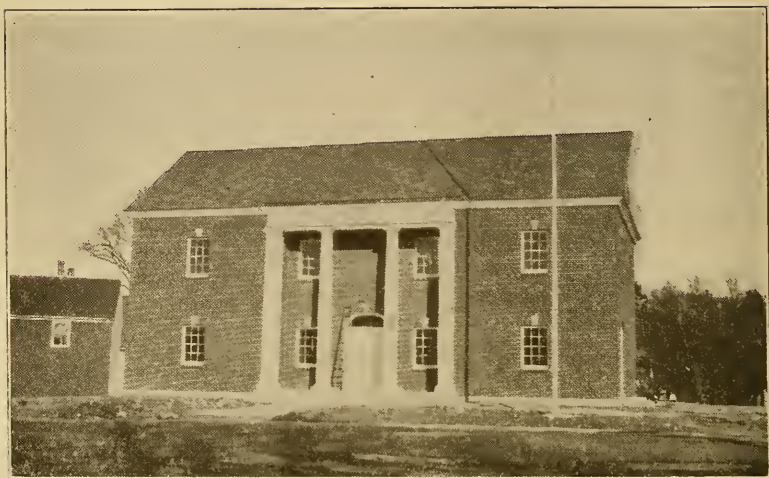
ANNUAL REPORT OF DISTRICT TREASURER

Year Ending June 30, 1928

Summary

Cash on hand June 30, 1927 (Bank)	\$291 96
Received from Selectmen, Appropriation for current year	\$6,883 40
Balance of previous appropriation	361 40
Dog Tax	148 97
	<u>7,393 77</u>
Total amount available for year	<u>\$7,685 73</u>
Less School Board Orders	7,067 84
Balance on hand June 30, 1928	<u>\$ 617 89</u>

MARGARET J. TAYLOR
Treasurer
CHARLES M. TAYLOR
EMMA A. JOSLIN
Auditors



Front View of New Building, Facing the Square



East End of the New Building

SCHOOL HOUSE DEDICATED IN BENNINGTON

**New Brick Building Given by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J.
Pierce to the School District of the Town**

**Report of Dedication and Historical Address of
January 1, 1929**

A goodly number of the town's people and quite a few from adjoining towns gathered at the new school house, in Bennington Square, to witness the dedicatory exercises, on Tuesday afternoon, at two o'clock.

The brief program as carried out was as follows:

The formal presentation remarks conveying the building and land to School District were made by Arthur J. Pierce, donor, who in his closing words passed over the deeds to the property.

The remarks of acceptance were made by George Edwards, chairman of the School Board of Bennington, expressing thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Pierce for their most generous gift, on behalf of the town's people.

Hon. Allen Hollis, of Concord, made the dedicatory address, largely historical, dealing with educational matters of much interest, which was listened to with great attention. Mr. Hollis is an easy speaker and had assem-

bled together a nice bunch of facts regarding the town, its early history, and brought out comparisons with the advantages and opportunities of today. His reference to the gift of this new school to the town was nicely framed in fitting words, and the impressive thought made was the fact that an unusual thing is here being done for the benefit of the children of today and of future years.

This closed the formal program and then an opportunity was given everyone to look over the building, and see what an up to date school in all its appointments is like.

For a town the size of Bennington this building is generous in its proportions. But not a single thing is missing that would naturally enter into the comfort and convenience of a new school house, meaning of course all the modern appurtenances, such as heating, lighting, ventilation, sanitation, and the many things needful in a modern school building.

Upon a bronze plate inside the front door at the left is this wording:

This building was given
to the School District of
Bennington
by
Arthur Johnson Pierce
and
Sally Crocker Pierce
In the year 1928

From the pictures herewith shown, a general idea may be had—this for the benefit of those who are not able to visit the new schoolhouse and look it over. The building is of brick, cement and steel, hardly any wood is used in its construction; and is as near fire proof as possible. It is located just off the Square, on the site of the former Strickland hotel which was burned several years ago. From the road turning toward Francetown, a broad cement walk leads up to the front double door-way within mas-

sive columns, over which are the words "Pierce School." Entering one finds himself in a hall-way extending the length of the building, at one end of which is an outside door and stairs to the basement; at the other end of the hall is the stair-way to the second floor. Two school rooms are on each floor: the Primary and Intermediate departments occupy the ground floor, the Grammar school on the second floor; the other room here is designed for a junior high school. This room is not fitted with desks and chairs at present, so may be used for such purposes as seems best, and here was where the dedicatory exercises were held. A beautiful new piano—Cable Midget—is a part of the furnishings of this room. Across the hall is a room that may be used for meetings of teachers and school board.

In each school room there are wardrobe lockers with swinging doors and sanitary ventilators; also book cupboards and drawers for teacher's use. The desks and chairs are steel and wood combination—the two being a unit which may be moved as desired; these are the latest thing obtainable in school furnishings. The blackboards are polished slate. The lighting effect in each room is perfect and generously provided; practically the entire side of the room at left of the pupil is glass. In the halls are water bubblers, and on opposite side are two toilets.

In the basement is the steam heating plant which is one of the American Radiator Company's best. Here is located a thermostat system and the fire alarm. These improvements all have the approval of the country's leading engineers. On either side of the furnace room are toilets, wash rooms and large play places; one section is for use of the girls and the other for the boys.

Throughout the building the floors are covered with battleship linoleum of a high grade.

The architects and builders were the Shattuck Company, of Manchester. The plans and all details were submitted to the State Board of Education, whose approval they had in every particular.

The cost of the gift complete is not far from \$50,000.

In the front of this commodious school building is a steel flagpole 60 feet in length, from the top of which floats a handsome flag.

Charles F. Burnham is the janitor and will delight in keeping everything shining. This spirit of pride will likewise be shown by the teachers, and all feel that the pupils will be inspired by the surroundings and keep all they have to do with more neat and clean than they usually have.

The school play-ground is at the rear of the building, and when graded and in condition will be large and ample for all activities. This will be put into suitable shape as soon as the spring weather will permit.

As has been previously stated several times, this most munificent gift is presented to the School District of Bennington in the interest of the young people of today and future generations, and to them is it affectionately dedicated. Mr. Pierce, who is president of the Monadnock Paper Mills, has made a splendid donation to the educational life of the town, and his generosity will be greatly appreciated.

Now that the dedication has taken place and the property is in possession of the town, the building will at once be occupied. The teachers are:

Miss Mae Cashion, Primary
Miss Lulu Cilley, Intermediate
Miss Dorothy Burbank, Grammar

The members of the School Board are:
George E. Edwards, Chairman
Mrs. Arthur J. Pierce
Mrs. Henry W. Wilson

Dedication Address Delivered by Hon. Allen Hollis, of
Concord, N. H.

"We have met today to dedicate this school house to the use of children of this town. Our thoughts are centered on the children on this occasion, because they will be the real beneficiaries of this school. The deed runs to the town, but the gift is to the children.

"About this time of year our merchants and manufacturers make inventories of their merchandise, setting down the different items in detail and carrying out their value in dollars and cents. Down at the paper mill they figure out how much paper they have on hand and how much pulp and other materials and coal and supplies. The storekeeper does the same with his goods. When they complete this account of stock, as it is sometimes called, they enter the figures in their account books and reckon how much they have made during the year.

"It is useful sometimes for individuals to make a similar account of stock; and in looking over this new building today my mind has been engaged in the pleasant contemplation of what the boys and girls of Bennington might put down in their inventories. It might be thought that these children had accumulated so few of this world's goods that they would have little or nothing to list, but a little reflection discloses many assets which deserve recording.

"One reason we do not realize the extent of our possessions is because we take so many things for granted. On these days of plenty we hardly think of the luxury which touches the life of nearly everyone; and it might be helpful for us to list the things which our children have today, in comparison with the days of the early settlers of this town, or even our own childhood days, forty or fifty years ago.

"I shall not discuss the obvious things, like clothes

and shelter and food; but when I see the things our children have, I can not help recalling what I have read in our early histories, about the journeyman tailor and cobbler, who used to visit the homes and make the clothes and boots enough to last the whole family for a year, or until they came around again. The materials, of course, were woolen cloth and leather produced at home, whose principal virtue must have been endurance rather than beauty. I have no doubt the little girls of long ago had dolls of a sort; but I doubt whether the boys had many sleds or skates, not to mention a thousand toys which would have been marvels in those olden days.

“It is more in the line of the intangible things which appeal to me. The opportunity which everyone had to fulfill the promise of the Declaration of Independence is an example. Our children are more truly born free and equal than ever before in the history of the world. Despite the increase in wealth and rich men, the chance to improve one's condition was never so good. Instead of drifting into a system of class such as prevails in our mother country, our society becomes more and more unsettled, and what little aristocracy we formerly had has nearly disappeared. This seems a misfortune, because our old ‘best families’ exerted a beneficial influence in public affairs, besides setting a good example of thrift and sobriety to the community. However, the advantage of being born a citizen of the United States of America is very great, particularly when we see the conditions in the older countries of the world. Our government is the nearest approach to popular rule which has ever worked; and if the people are careful to guard their freedom they will never lose it; but they will have to be careful, because there will always be men who would usurp authority if they could. ‘Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.’

“I do not think we sufficiently appreciate the benefits of peace. War never has ravaged this town or this state, since the old Indian wars which ceased before this region was settled; and except the great civil war of 1861, this country has had little acquaintance with invading armies. We may fervently hope that our isolated position and military and naval power may always keep our land in peace and that some day the dream of the ages, universal peace,

may become a reality. Here again the people must be vigilant to see that the fighting spirit is not so much cultivated—and that we have a sufficient degree of preparedness against eventualities.

“The advance in medicine is another wonderful gain for the children of this generation. The child’s diseases of my day have been nearly all abolished by the resources of modern medicine and those which remain have been robbed of their terrors. It is true that the small places are now suffering from lack of resident doctors; but telephones and automobiles will serve to bring the more distant doctor in case of need. There is no doubt that a general understanding of the principles of sanitation and the removal of causes of disease have contributed much to our present high standard of health.

“Probably the most important advantage of the present day is the chance to go to school. The children do not consider that a privilege at all, but regard it a duty, and in many cases a disagreeable duty. It is a duty in a sense, because it is required by law and has been for many years. The reason of the law is plain. Ignorance is a menace to our free institutions. Where the people rule they must be educated to rule. The blessings of liberty would turn into the curses of anarchy without a high degree of intelligence amongst the masses of the people.

“Free schools have always been a fundamental idea of our government. Education is the key to the door which leads to success—it marks the distinction between the civilized man and the savage. I never encountered a man in this state who could not read and write—I have seen many such in Canada. It is a fact that this state stands rather low in the standard of literacy, due to the fact that so many illiterates have come here from abroad, but our school system is thoroughly up to date and more money is spent on schools than on highways. Nearly forty per cent. of all money raised by taxation goes for schools.

“Nothing shows a greater contrast between present and the past than our schools; and a perusal of Mr. Hayward’s excellent history of Hancock gives us a good idea of the difficulties which the pioneers in this region had to overcome and shows us what resolute and resourceful men

settled this inhospitable country.

"Bennington was set off from Hancock in 1842; but as this village was always an important part of the old town, we may be sure that the history of Hancock is the history of this town for the first eighty years.

"There was an amazing spread of population into the less accessible parts of the state following the end of the French and Indian wars in 1762. I have never been able to understand the reasons which led men to leave the comparative comfort of the older settlements along the sea coast and the larger rivers, and force their way back into the wilderness which clothed these hills. Doubtless cheap land, abundant game and the spirit of adventure were large factors. We have no way of realizing the hardships they endured. Log cabins furnished crude shelter, rude fireplaces made a measure of protection against the winter's cold. It was a slow process girdling the trees and burning them and scratching in a little rye and a few potatoes. Long journeys over rough trails must be made for the few luxuries from the settlements—salt, gun powder, bullets, nails, tea and (I guess) rum and tobacco. A slow and arduous process, which only stout hearts and strong frames could endure.

"Yet the town gained population. By 1799 when it was chartered there were probably twenty-five families; and three years later we find them taking up in earnest the job of building a meeting house, for religious worship as well as a place for meetings on town affairs. They had a hard time agreeing on plans and location, but after seven years their ambition was realized and they raised and boarded and shingled the meeting house and sold the pews; and some years later they painted it. It had windows with real glass in them. It is true it never had a chimney and could not be warmed in winter; and those who went to church, as nearly everybody did in those days, tried to keep their feet warm with little square tin boxes filled with live coals. The history shows that the meeting house was swept four times a year. Of course the floor was bare and there were no cushions on the seats. This fine meeting house burned down in 1819 and was promptly rebuilt. There is reference to buying a

stove for the new one in 1830, by which time stoves were becoming common.

"It is hard to believe that our forefathers could have lived in this climate without any heat except from fireplaces burning wood; and in most houses the only room that had a fireplace was the kitchen. We know they had a fire in the school house in 1819 because the meeting house fire came from a spark which a boy dropped while carrying coals from the blacksmith shop to light a fire in the school house; but as there were no stoves at that date the school house must have been heated by a fireplace. They had no matches then and their only light was from tallow candles.

"For a number of years the only schools were held in the houses of the people. Then the town was divided into districts and they tried to get some school houses built. They didn't succeed very well. The first school house in the record was built in 1792 at the center district. It was twenty-two feet square and had four windows, two and one-half feet wide and three feet high and cost about \$100.

"In the course of time the schools were well established in the town had several academies and seminaries at various times. Franklin Pierce attended high school in town, probably about 1820. Mr. Hayward, writing in 1889, says that few towns in the state have had better schools during the past fifty years.

"It would seem, however, that during the early years the terms must have been short, because the amount appropriated was small, rising slowly to \$500 in 1820, when there must have been at least 200 pupils. At the same time \$50 was raised for instruction in singing. They must have had some good singers in those days.

"Of course they did not have many studies—reading, writing and arithmetic. School books were very few, and much of the teaching was by word of mouth. Yet those simple schools gave the children a fair start and those who showed ability could go to some academy and finally to college if they had enough ambition.

"This town of Bennington was set off from Hancock in 1842. This part of the town was supplied with mills at an early date, using the convenient water power on the river. It soon became known as Factory Village; and in 1842 the mill owners and those who worked for them decided to have a town of their own. They retained Franklin Pierce, then practicing in his home town of Hillsborough as their lawyer, and he succeeded in procuring the necessary charter from the legislature. The history does not show that the town of Hancock resisted the separation very strongly. Probably they could see the injustice of forcing this thriving community at the north-east corner to remain a part of the town when the people here wanted to separate; and probably Franklin Pierce was a power in the state ten years before he was elected president.

"The name for the town was suggested by Mr. Pierce, who doubtless borrowed it from the town in Vermont which John Stark, a native of this county, made famous by his great victory over the British. Bennington, Vermont, was named after Gov. Benning Wentworth.

"It is interesting to see that of all the mills which formerly operated here, beginning at the powder mill and counting the sawmill and the grist mill and the cotton mill and the knife mill and so on to the paper mill, none remains today except the paper mill—and that now uses all the water power which was formerly used by all the others, besides using a great deal of additional steam power. It is fortunate for this town that Col. Pierce decided to come here in 1902 and go into the paper business; and I think he would say it was fortunate for him too. Possibly someone else would have done it if he had not, but the fact remains that he did it and that he made a success of it for himself and for the town as well.

"Manufacturing in this state has taken the place of farms in furnishing a living for the people. Nearly all our thrifty villages are built around mills which use water powers. In many cases these mills have fallen into the hands of owners who live at a distance and have no personal interest in the people. In some cases the mills have failed and closed down, never to resume.

"In this town you have through the enterprise of the owner an up-to-date mill large enough to meet competition, yet small enough so that the men can know each other—a mill which furnishes steady jobs for the people in the village, where the owner lives near by so that he can know your wants. Believing that a chance to go to school in a building furnished with all modern improvements is the best provision he could make for the town's welfare, he has devoted his time and his money to that purpose. He knows that from the children in these small towns will come the men and women who will carry this state and nation always to greater and better things. Nearly all our presidents, like Lincoln and Coolidge, and now Hoover, grew up in small places. Lincoln never went to school except as a teacher; but most of our presidents worked their way up from the common schools through college to high position. The story of our Governors is much the same. Nearly always it is the man whose boyhood was spent in our common schools and who by his own efforts and sacrifices of his family has finished a college course who is honored with high position. It is quite possible that one of your children will be governor or even president.

"It might seem at first thought that this building is more commodious, more luxurious, better supplied with conveniences and modern devices for health and sanitation than is needed. Mr. Pierce believes that a gift to this town should be the highest quality; and that educating the young people in the principles of health and cleanliness and sanitation is no less important than teaching them lessons out of books. Here is the plant for producing the most valuable product of our nation; its efficient operation is a task for the citizens of the town.

"It is Mr. Pierce's expectation that this fine building may encourage the boys and girls of today and those who may follow them here in many years to come to their best efforts to lay a solid foundation of a sound education. Thus will the pupils reap the highest benefit for themselves and at the same time advance the welfare of their town, their state and their nation. We may be sure that his wishes will come true; and as this building may endure beyond the lives of any of us, we will today dedicate

it as an institution of learning in the town and as a monument to the thoughtful generosity of a leading citizen whom his townsmen are proud to recognize as a public benefactor."

The citizens of the town hereby acknowledge their obligation to the donors for this splendid gift, and will do their best to see that it fulfils its highest purpose.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SUPER- VISORY UNION, NO. 47

To the Bennington School Board:

Since the close of the fiscal year 1922-1923, the costs for elementary education, all items, have increased seven one hundreths of one cent for each dollar of equalized valuation of the town of Bennington. In 1922-1923 Bennington stood 27th from the bottom of a list of 252 school districts in the state. In 1927-1928 it was 33rd from the bottom of this list. This represented a total increased cost of \$1,214.14.

Of this \$1,214.14, high school tuitions accounted for \$406.00; increases in teachers' salaries accounted for \$642.12 more; while increases of \$82.50 in janitors' salaries, an increase to only a fair wage of two dollars per school day, \$64.68 for building repairs, and \$48.00 for the statutory obligation for larger enrolment, chiefly due to increased interest beyond the sixth grade, accounted for more than the \$1,214.14.

In other words, only rigid economy in all other items made possible a fair educational chance for the pupils in Bennington. Thus, for instance, the cost for scholars' supplies was the lowest in six years, less than one half what the cost was in 1922-1923.

The present fiscal year, to close in June, 1929, will be, unless changes in policy occur subsequent to this dated report, the lowest on record since 1921, where local

elementary school costs are concerned, for educative activities.

Over the item of secondary school tuitions, the Town of Bennington has no control. And it is apparent that more and more children will attend high schools, as the years pass. The cost of this single item has increased from \$540.00 in 1920, to \$1,438.00 in 1928.

During the past six years the total enrolment has increased, in both elementary and high schools, from 105 to 116, an increase of eleven pupils, or 10 %.

A notable saving in items for which return should be expected, has occurred over a nine year period, amounting to more than \$225.00 per year. We refer to the fact that in 1927-1928 there was maintained, for the first recorded time, a full school year of 180 days. Over an eight year period, 70 days of schooling were lost, being nearly 40 % of a school year. This financial and educational loss was stopped in the past fiscal year, and we believe that the Board will desire that the pupils shall have equal opportunity with those in towns maintaining full 180 day years; and that there shall be a full return, as in the past year, from money invested for the purpose of education.

In the superior surroundings now afforded the pupils of Bennington, the care of the Board should specifically be that of making the educational facilities, the personal diagnostic and remedial work, the adequate supply of books, on a parity with the beauty and comfort of the physical plant.

It is of interest to know that, even at the low figures noted above, the grades met the requirements of city school standards during the past year. But the time is rapidly approaching when the Board must decide in favor of a thrifty increase in items purely for instruction, particularly more books, if the children of Bennington are to be on an educational par with those of 211 other towns in the state.

(Signed)

LAWTON CHASE

February 8, 1929

BUDGET FOR 1929-30 FOR BENNINGTON SCHOOLS

Salaries of District Officers	\$ 137 00
Salaries Teachers	3,400 00
Salaries Janitor	600 00
Fuel	350 00
Scholars' Supplies	150 00
Superintendent's Excess Salary	141 00
Superintendent's Clerk	42 00
Per Capita	220 00
Electric Lights	30 00
Tuition	1,675 00
Medical Inspection	90 00
Text Books	250 00
Other Expenses for Instruction	8 00
Expenses for Administration	65 00
Janitor Supplies	45 00
Grading	500 00
Unseen Expenses	297 00
	\$8,000 00

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

**To the Inhabitants of the School district in the town of
Bennington qualified to vote in district affairs:**

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in said district on the eighth day of March 1929, at 8 o'clock in the afternoon, to act upon the following subjects:

1. To choose a Moderator for the coming year.
2. To choose a Clerk for the ensuing year.
3. To choose a Member of the School Board for the ensuing three years.
4. To choose a Treasurer for the ensuing year.
5. To determine and appoint the salaries of the School Board and Truant Officer, and fix the compensation of any other officers or agents of the district.
6. To hear the reports of Agents, Auditors, Committees, or Officers chosen, and pass any vote relating thereto.
7. To choose Agents, Auditors and Committees in relation to any subject embraced in this warrant.
8. To see if the district will vote to make any alteration in the amount of money required to be assessed for the ensuing year for the support of public schools and the payment of the statutory obligations of the district, as determined by the school board in its annual report.

9. To see what action the District will take in regard to establishing a two year High School Course and raise and appropriate money for the same.

10. To see what action the District will take in regard to the disposal of the Grammar School Building.

11. To see if the District will raise and appropriate \$500.00 for grading around the new School.

Given under our hands at said Bennington this 16th day of February 1929.

GEORGE E. EDWARDS
SALLY C. PIERCE
HATTIE A. WILSON

[Seal]

School Board of Bennington.

REPORT OF SEXTON OF TOWN OF BENNINGTON, N. H. From January 31, 1928, to January 31, 1929

Name	Age			Died	Disease	Brought From	Place of Interment
	Yrs.	Mo.	Da.				
Lenora F. Manahan	45	11	16	February 24	Cho. spinal muscular atrophy	Fall River, Mass.	Bennington
Edward W. Smith	79	8	7	March 14	Chronic valvular heart		Dover, Mass.
Elmore W. Call	11	1	26	March 23	Encephalitis		Bennington
Starling F. Heath	73	9	9	May 24		St. Josephs hospital	Keene
David Bosley	36			June 12	Fracture base of skull		Bennington
Frank Chetwynd	26	10	10	December 23	Tuberculosis		Greenfield
Sarah Kochersp'rg'r	72	2	25	December 28	Bronchial pneumonia		Bennington
Alice May Newton	60	5	25	Jan'y 18, '29	Lobar pneumonia		"
Marjorie W. Adam	59	8	28	Jan'y 20	Lobar pneumonia		"
Stephen Chase	60	11	20	Jan'y 22	Cardiac lision		"
Melissa Martin	68	1	3	Jan'y 25	Pneumonia influenza		"

Report of Sexton of Mount Calvary Cemetery

Eugene H. Piper	50	4	17	September 22	Crushing of chest	Fracestown	Bennington
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Respectfully submitted,

FRANK A. TAYLOR, Sexton.

Budget of the Town of BENNINGTON, N. H.

**Estimates of Revenue and Expenditures
for the Ensuing Year
Jan. 31, 1929, to Jan. 31, 1930**

**Compared with Actual Revenue
and Expenditures of the
Previous Year
Jan. 31, 1928, to Jan. 31, 1929**

Sources of Revenue	Actual Revenue Previous Year 1928	Estimated Revenue Ensuing Year 1929	Increase	Decrease
FROM STATE:				
Insurance Tax	3 00	3 00		
Railroad Tax	108 76	108 76		
Savings Bank Tax	1068 10	1068 10		
For Fighting Forest Fires	3 10			3 10
For Highways:				
Snow Removal	4 50	4 50		
(a) For State Aid Maint.	950 69	540 00		410 69
(b) For Trunk Line Maint.	1293 37	1400 00	106 63	
Interest and Dividend Tax	1098 04	1098 04		
White Pine Blister Bal.	3 05			3 05
FROM LOCAL SOURCES EXCEPT TAXES:				
All Licences and Permits except Dog Licenses	21 00	20 00		1 00
Rent of Town Hall and Other Buildings	377 30	377 30		
Income from Departments:				
Water Dept.	1083 05	1083 05		
Motor Vehicles	998 27	998 27		
County Poor	9 00	14 00	5 00	
Filing Fee	2 00			2 00
FROM POLL TAXES:				
From other taxes except property taxes	612 00	612 00		
(a) National Bank Stock	2 00	2 00		
Rebate on Water Bonds	2 25			2 25
Hardpan	1 70			1 70

Sources of Revenue	Actual Revenue Previous Year 1928	Estimated Revenue Ensuing Year 1929	Increase	Decrease
Revenue Applicable only to New Construction and Improvements:				
From State:				
(a) For State Aid				
Highway Construction	1342 66	1342 66		
Revenue Which Must be Paid to Other Govt. Div.:				
Dog Licenses	112 70	112 70		
Amount Raised by Property Taxes	17283 96	17283 96		
TOTAL REVENUES	\$26380 50	26068 31	111 63	423 79

Purposes of Expenditures	Actual	Estimated		
	Expenditures	Expenditures		
	Previous	Ensuing		
	Year 1928	Year 1929	Increase	Decrease
Current Maint. Expenses:				
General Government:				
Town Officers' Salaries	718 53	800 00	81 47	
Town Officers' Expenses	327 98	327 98		
Election and Regis. Expenses	111 50	40 00		71 50
Care and Supplies for				
Town Hall	761 37	761 37		
Protection of Persons and Property:				
Police Department	60 31	60 31		
Fire Department	446 94	446 94		
Health:				
Health Department	27 76	27 76		
Vital Statistics	5 15	5 15		
Highways and Bridges:				
Trunk Line Snow	10 50	250 00	239 50	
State Aid Maintenance				
State's Contribution	2419 51	2346 98		72 53
Town's Contribution	1209 78	1563 48	353 70	
Trunk Line Maintenance				
State's Contribution	2259 51	3321 44	1061 87	
Town's Contribution	1129 80	1660 71	530 91	
Town Maintenance	1778 27	1778 27		

Purposes of Expenditures	Actual Expenditures Previous Year 1928	Estimated Expenditures Ensuing Year 1929	Increase Decrease
Street Lighting	660 00	660 00	
General Expense	792 92	500 00	292 92
Education:			
Libraries	200 00	200 00	
Charities:			
Town Poor	16 55	16 55	
County Poor	23 00	23 00	
Patriotic Purposes:			
Memorial Day and Other Celebrations	200 00	150 00	50 00
Public Service Enterprises:			
Water Works	81 49	81 49	
Cemeteries	400 00	200 00	200 00
Auto Permits	45 00	45 00	
INTEREST:			
On Temporary Loans	62 50		62 50
On Long Term Notes	250 83		250 83
Outlay for New Construction and Permanent Improvements:			
State Aid Construction			
State's Contribution	1640 34	1405 00	235 34
Town's Contribution	1944 50	1405 00	539 50

Purposes of Expenditures	Actual	Estimated		
	Expenditures	Expenditures		
	Previous	Ensuing		
	Year 1928	Year 1929	Increase	Decrease
<hr/>				
Indebtedness:				
Payment on Principal of Debt				
(a) Bonds, Water •	3000 00			3000 00
Payments to Other Govt. Div.:				
State Taxes	2298 25	2298 25		
County Taxes	1785 75	1800 00	14 25	
Dog Licenses	148 97	112 70		36 27
Payments to School Dists.	5383 40	8000 00	2616 60	
<hr/>				
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$30200 47	30287 38	4898 30	4811 39

VITAL STATISTICS

OF THE

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

1928

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births Registered in the Town of Bennington for the Year ending December 31, 1928

Date of Birth	Name of Child	Living or stillborn	Sex	No. of Child	Name of Father	Maiden Name of Mother	Occupation of Father	Residence of Parents	Birthplace of Father	Birthplace of Mother
Feb. 23	Agnes Cora	All living	F	4	William B. Heath	Cora Rose Piper	Laborer	All Bennington	Bradford, Vt.	Manchester
Mar. 8	Kourkounis		F	4	Antonio Kourkounis	Etrosini Tilton	Laborer		Greece	Greece
Apr. 5	Glen Francis		M	1	Theodore F. Call	Gertrude M. Cody	Paper Maker		Antrim	Bennington
Apr. 7	Cynthia Teresa		F	4	Paul G. Traxler	Dorothy M. Collins	Cutlery Shop		Bennington	Keene
May 21	Georgia Rose		F	2	George McKay	Leona Gregg	Mill Operator		Antrim	Melvin Mills
July 1	Robert James		M	7	Harry W. Brown	Mary A. Richards	Shop Foreman		Bennington	Orange, Mass.
Oct. 14	Evan Rex, Jr.		M	1	Evan Rex Day	Rachel E. Hanse	Cook		So. Royalston, Vt.	Bennington
Dec. 19	Arlene Maynard		M	1	Maynard S. Sargent	Ilene L. Andrews	Paper Maker		Henniker	Northfield, Vt.

Deaths Registered in the Town of Bennington for the Year ending December 31, 1928

Date of Death	Place of Death	Name and Surname of the Deceased	Age			Place of Birth	Sex	Occupation	Place of Birth		Name of Father	Maiden Name of Mother
			Years	Months	Days				Father	Mother		
Jan. 26	Bennington	Goldie Emma Holt	44	7	3	Surry	F	Housewife	Ashford, Conn.	Putney, Vt.	Everet Wilbur	Lucy Pierce
March 14	Bennington	Edward W. Smith	79	8	7	Boston, Mass.	M	None	Runney	Boston, Mass.	Orlando M. Smith	Mary H. Brummette
March 23	Bennington	Elmore William Call	11	1	26	Bennington	M	None	Runney	Hancock	William E. Call	Mary A. Whitney
May 24	Bennington	Starling F. Heath	73	9	9	Bridgewater	M	Mechanic	Bridgewater	Bridgewater	Charles H. Heath	Abigail Cross
*Sept. 22	Francesstown	Eugene H. Piper	59	4	17	New Boston	M	Laborer	Canada	Canada	Peter Piper	Elizabeth LaBegue
Dec. 23	Bennington	Frank (betwynd)	26	10	1	Nova Scotia	M	Section Hand	Nova Scotia	Nova Scotia	Jesse D. Smith	Jerusha Chetwynd
Dec. 28	Bennington	Sarah Ida Kochersperger	72	2	25	Philadelphia, Pa.	F	None	Philadelp'a, Pa.		John C. Robinson	

CHARLES H. SMITH, Town Clerk

I hereby certify that the above returns are correct according to the best of my knowledge and belief.

*Brought here for Burial

State of New York

County of ...

...